

NEW ABSTRACT

A data playback apparatus and method for handling of a recorded data stream and associated linear application include a data stream playback stage operable to perform linear real-time and non-linear playback of a stored data stream from storage. An application processing stage runs a linear application from a given start point on commencement of linear real-time playback of the data stream. To avoid problems where the application is unsuited to the non-linearity, the application processing stage stops running of said application and, on recommencing of linear real-time playback, recommences running of the application from the given start point.